

Message Text

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70

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSC-01 CPR-02 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15

RSR-01 /104 W

----- 096816

R 26/1245Z AUG 73

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 495

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USINT BAGHDAD 447

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BE

SUBJECT: DEPARTURE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR

1. BELGIAN AMBASSADOR MARCEL VAN DE KERCKHOVE IS DEPARTING BAGHDAD ABOUT SEPTEMBER 20 FOR RE-ASSIGNMENT AS DIRECTOR OF NATO AFFAIRS DIVISION IN BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE HAS BEEN IN CHARGE OF U.S. INTERESTS IN BAGHDAD SINCE DECEMBER 1970. HIS SUCCESSOR NOT YET NAMED.

2. AMBASSADOR VAN DE KERCKHOVE HAS BEEN EXTREMELY COOPERATIVE WITH USINT SINCE ITS OPENING IN OCTOBER 1972. HE HAS GIVEN USINT FULL AUTONOMY TO OPERATE AND AT SAME TIME WILLINGLY TAKEN ACTIONS REQUESTED BY DEPARTMENT AND USINT WITHOUT REFERENCE TO BRUSSELS. HE WAS OF COURSE CONSIDERABLY MORE ACTIVE ON BEHALF U.S. INTERESTS PRIOR TO ASSIGNMENT OF U.S. OFFICERS. HE IS PROUD OF FACT THAT THIS IS ONLY TIME IN HISTORY OF BELGIAN DIPLOMATIC SERVICE THAT IT HAS BEEN PROTECTING POWER.

3. RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT SEND APPROPRIATE LEVEL MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION TO AMBASSADOR VAN DE KERCKHOVE AND TO BELGIAN FOREIGN MINSITRY. SUGGEST MESSAGE MENTION IN PARTICULAR HIS STRONG EFFORTS ON OUR BEHALF DURING APRIL AND MAY OF 1971 TO PREVENT SEIZURE OF U.S. EMBASSY AND HIS

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HELPFULNESS AND COOPERATION IN ESTABLISHMENT OF USINT
UNDER AMERICAN OFFICERS.
LOWRIE

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: DEPARTURE BELGIAN AMBASSADOR
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